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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 01984 011744Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 /033 W
----------076886 020329Z /66
R 011526Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1384
INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO
LIMA 2499
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: TGEN, GATT, UNGA,VE
SUBJECT: PROPOSED MULTILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON ANDEAN PACT
TECHNOLOGY CENTERS

REF: (A) STATE 43079 (B) LIMA 1618 (C) BOGOTA 1842

1. SCIENCE OFFICER ASKED MS. BEATRIZ RANGEL ON FEB 28
ABOUT PLANS FOR ANDEAN PACT TECHNOLOGY CENTERS. MS. RANGER
EXPLAINED THAT SHE COULD NOT DISCUSS ANY DETAILS OF THE
PROPOSAL AT THIS TIME BECAUSE IT IS STILL ONLY IN A
VERY PRELIMINARY STAGE AND WILL REQUIRE FURTHER DEFINITION
WITHIN THE ANDEAN PACT. SHE SAID THE CONCEPT OF
SUCH CENTERS AROSE OUT OF DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE MEMBER COUNTRIES
IN THE EARLY 1970'S BUT THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE DECISIONS
WAS DELAYED BY THE PROLONGED DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE PACT OF DECISION
24 ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. IT IS
NOW PLANNED TO TAKE UP THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER CONCEPT IN
A MEETING TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE OF THIS
YEAR, EITHER IN LIMA OR CARACAS. IDEALLY, SHE SAID THIS FIRST
MEETING WOULD RESULT IN AGREEMENT ON THE CONCEPT AND DEFINE
GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ONE OR MORE SUCH CENTERS.
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ONCE SUCH AGREEMENT IS REACHED WITHIN THE PACT, SHE SAID SHE WOULD
BE PLEASED TO REVIEW THE PROPOSAL IN DETAIL WITH THE EMBASSY. AT
THAT TIME, SHE ADDED, THERE ALSO MAY BE INTEREST AMONG PACT MEMBERS
IN CONSULTING WITH OUTSIDE GROUPS, I.E. IN THE US.
SHE NOTED THAT SHE HAD DISCUSSED THIS LATTER POSSIBILITY WITH
AMBASSADOR WILKOWSKI AT THE UNCSTD PREPCOM, BUT EMPHASIZED
THAT IN SO DOING SHE WAS ONLY REFERRING TO POSSIBLE CONSULTATIONS

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SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.FINALLY, MS. RANGEL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE GOV SUPPORTED THE TECHNOLOGY CENTER PROPOSAL, BUT EXPLAINED AGAIN THAT SHE COULD NOT GO INTO FURTHER DETAIL UNTIL THE MEMBER COUNTRIES HAD MET.

2.COMMENT: MS. RANGEL HAS ALWAYS EXPRESSED GREAT INTEREST IN COOPERATING WITH THE US BUT IN THIS CASE SHE SEEMED ALMOST DEFENSIVE AS SHE MADE IT VERY CLEAR THAT THE ANDEAN PACT COUNTRIES MUST FIRST PUT THEIR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER BEFORE THEY CAN LOOK TO ANY OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE OR ADVICE. IN THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, THEREFORE, THE US ALREADY MAY HAVE INADVERTENTLY GOTTEN OUT IN FRONT ASOBE# PREMATURE.
CROWLEY

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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